

Appl. No. 09/742,830
Amdt. dated 4/13/04

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original): A thermoplastic polymer fabric comprising:

a plurality of continuous multicomponent filaments having a denier less than about 3 and comprising a first polymeric component and a second polymeric component wherein said second polymeric component comprises a majority of the outer surface of said multicomponent filament;

said first polymeric component having been made from a first thermoplastic polymer having a melt-flow rate of at least 150 g/10 minutes;

said second polymeric component having been made from a second thermoplastic polymer having a melt-flow rate at least about 65% less than the melt-flow rate of the first thermoplastic polymer.

2. (Original): The thermoplastic polymer fabric of claim 1 wherein said second thermoplastic polymer has a melt-flow rate at least about 75% less than the melt-flow rate of the first thermoplastic polymer.

3. (Original): The thermoplastic polymer fabric of claim 1 wherein said second thermoplastic polymer has a melt-flow rate at least about 85% less than the melt-flow rate of the first thermoplastic polymer.

4. (Original): The thermoplastic polymer fabric of claim 2 wherein said multicomponent filament is a bicomponent filament and has a sheath-core cross-sectional configuration wherein the second polymer comprises the sheath and further wherein the sheath component comprises substantially the entire outer surface of the multicomponent filament.

5. (Original): The thermoplastic polymer fabric of claim 2 wherein said multicomponent filament has a striped cross-sectional configuration wherein the first polymer component is positioned between said second polymeric component and a third polymeric component; said third polymeric component comprises a polymer having a melt-flow rate similar to that of said second polymer.

6. (Original): The thermoplastic polymer fabric of claim 2 wherein said first polymer comprises a propylene polymer and said second polymer comprises an ethylene polymer.

Appl. No. 09/742,830
Amdt. dated 4/13/04

7. (Original): The thermoplastic polymer fabric of claim 2 wherein said first polymer comprises a propylene polymer and said second polymer comprises a propylene polymer.

8. (Original): The thermoplastic polymer fabric of claim 1 wherein said first polymer comprises a first olefin polymer having a melt-flow greater than 200 g/10 minutes and wherein said second polymer comprises an olefin polymer having a melt-flow rate less than about 50 g/10 minutes.

9. (Original): The thermoplastic polymer fabric of claim 8 wherein said thermoplastic polymer fabric comprises spunbond fibers.

10. – 20. Canceled

21. (Previously presented): A thermoplastic polymer fabric comprising:

a plurality of continuous multicomponent filaments having a denier less than about 3 and comprising a first polymeric component and a second polymeric component wherein said second polymeric component comprises a majority of the outer surface of said multicomponent filament;

said first polymeric component having been made from a first thermoplastic polymer having a melt-flow rate of at least 150 g/10 minutes;

said second polymeric component having been made from a second thermoplastic polymer having a melt-flow rate at least about 65% less than the melt-flow rate of the first thermoplastic polymer.

22. (New) The thermoplastic polymer fabric of claim 3 wherein said first component comprises an olefin polymer and said second polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyesters and polyamides.